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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/645,459

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10/30/2006

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EXAMINER

GERGISO, TECHANE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2137

DATE MAILED: 10/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/645,459

Applicant(s)

RATHI ET AL.

Examiner

Techane J. Gergiso

Art Unit

2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-23 have been examined.
2. Claims 1-23 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Renda et al. (hereinafter referred to as Renda, US. Pat. No.: 7, 127, 524).

As per claim 1:

Renda discloses a method comprising:

intercepting a request from a user for a web page, the user connected to a port of a packet forwarding device that prevents the user from accessing a network coupled to the forwarding device (column 3: lines 60-67; column 9: lines 55-67; figure 2A, 2B); directing the user to a network login page (figure 8A: 832,822B; column 24: lines 50-60; column 25: lines 43-61; column 27: lines 35-50);

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authenticating the user (column 23: lines 65-67; column 24: lines 1-12; column 25: lines 16-26); and

allowing the user to access the network when the user is authenticated (column 8: lines 1-35).

As per claim 2:

Renda discloses a method, wherein intercepting a request from a user comprises intercepting a Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request from the user (column 12: lines 17-33; column 23: lines 34-65; column 18: lines 1-20).

As per claim 3:

Renda discloses a method, comprising receiving a Domain Name Service (DNS) request to translate a domain name specified in the HTTP request into an Internet Protocol (IP) address (column 4: lines 1-50; column 14: lines 45-55; column 12: lines 56-65).

As per claim 4:

Renda discloses a method, comprising proxying the DNS request to a DNS server (column 7: lines 45-60).

As per claim 5:

Renda discloses a method, comprising receiving a response from the DNS server with a DNS-resolved IP address (column 7: lines 45-60; column 43: lines 35-55).

As per claim 6:

Renda discloses a method, comprising sending the DNS-resolved IP address to the user (column 7: lines 45-60; column 43: lines 35-55).

As per claim 7:

Renda discloses a method, comprising intercepting a request from the user directed to the DNS-resolved IP address (column 7: lines 45-60; column 43: lines 35-55).

As per claim 8:

Renda discloses a method, wherein directing the user to a network login page comprises responding to the user with a redirect to a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address for the network login page (column 12: lines 17-33; column 23: lines 34-65; column 18: lines 1-20).

As per claim 9:

Renda discloses a method, comprising receiving a DNS request from the user to translate a domain name for the network login page into an IP address (column 4: lines 1-50; column 14: lines 45-55; column 12: lines 56-65).

As per claim 10:

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Renda discloses a method, comprising responding to the user with the IP address of the packet forwarding device (figure 8A: 832, 822B; column 24: lines 50-60; column 25: lines 43-61; column 27: lines 35-50).

As per claim 11:

Renda discloses a method, comprising receiving from the user a request to the IP address of the packet forwarding device (column 3: lines 60-67; column 9: lines 55-67; figure 2A, 2B).

As per claim 12:

Renda discloses a method, comprising responding to the user with the network login page (column 23: lines 65-67; column 24: lines 1-12; column 25: lines 16-26).

As per claim 13:

Renda discloses a method, comprising receiving an authentication request from the user with user identification data (column 23: lines 65-67; column 24: lines 1-12; column 25: lines 16-26).

As per claim 14:

Renda discloses a method, wherein authenticating the user comprises parsing the authentication request and forwarding the authentication request to an authentication server (column 26: lines 5-40).

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As per claim 15:

Renda discloses a method, wherein parsing the authentication request and forwarding the authentication request to an authentication server comprises creating a packet with the user identification data in accordance with the RADIUS communications protocol and forwarding the RADIUS packet to a RADIUS server (column 26: lines 5-40; column 24: lines 50-67).

As per claim 16:

Renda discloses a method, comprising receiving a response from the RADIUS server to indicate whether the user identification data is authentic (column 26: lines 5-40; column 24: lines 50-67).

As per claim 17:

Renda discloses a method, wherein allowing the user to access the network when the user is authenticated comprises unblocking the port of the packet forwarding device to allow the user to access the network when the user is authenticated (column 8: lines 1-35).

As per claim 18:

Renda discloses an apparatus comprising:

a packet forwarding device coupled to a network, the packet forwarding device having a port that prevents a user connected to the port from accessing the network until the user is authenticated (column 3: lines 60-67; column 9: lines 55-67; figure 2A,

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2B; figure 8A: 832, 822B; column 24: lines 50-60; column 25: lines 43-61; column 27: lines 35-50); and

an authenticator discovery controller coupled to the packet forwarding device to intercept a request from the user for a web page and direct the user to a network login page for authentication (column 23: lines 65-67; column 24: lines 1-12; column 25: lines 16-26; column 8: lines 1-35).

As per claim 19:

Renda discloses an apparatus, comprising a network login controller coupled to the packet forwarding device to authenticate the user and allow the user to access the network when the user is authenticated (figure 2B: 274, 292).

As per claim 20:

Renda discloses an apparatus, wherein the packet forwarding device having a port that prevents a user connected to the port from accessing the network comprises the packet forwarding device having a blocked port that prevents a user connected to the port from accessing the network (column 10: lines 55-67).

As per claim 21:

Renda discloses an apparatus, wherein the network login controller to unblock the port of the packet forwarding device when the user is authenticated (column 8: lines 1-35).

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As per claim 22:

Renda discloses an apparatus, wherein the authenticator discovery controller to further receive a Domain Name Service (DNS) request from the user and to proxy the DNS request to a DNS server to translate a domain name into an Internet Protocol (IP) address (column 4: lines 1-50; column 14: lines 45-55; column 12: lines 56-65).

As per claim 23:

Renda discloses an apparatus, wherein the packet forwarding device is a switch (column 16: lines 25-40).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

See the notice of reference cited in form PTO-892 for additional prior art

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Techane J. Gergiso whose telephone number is (571) 272-3784 and fax number is ~~(571) 273-3784~~. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 6:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

T.G.

Techane Gergiso

Patent Examiner

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October 25, 2006

E. L. Moise
EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER